

Butler Bridge - WYOMING HISTORIC BRIDGE SURVEY
Spanning North Platte River,
on County Road No. 203
Encampment vicinity
Carbon County
Wyoming

HAER No. WY-⁶²~~67~~-1

HAER
WYO,
4-ECAMP,
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service
U. S. Department of the Interior
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

HAER
WYO.
4-ECAMP
1-

Butler Bridge

HAER No. WY-⁶²~~47-1~~

Location: Spanning North Platte River, on County Road 203;
7.6 miles northeast of Encampment, in Carbon County,
Wyoming

UTM: 13.362650.4568315
Quad: Crow Creek

Date of Construction: 1930

Builder/Designer: Chris O'Neil of Platteville, Colorado

Present Owner: Carbon County
Third and Pine Streets
Rawlins, Wyoming 82301

Present Use: Vehicular Bridge

Significance: The Butler Bridge, with a span of 170 feet, is the
longer of two pin connected Camelback Through trusses
remaining in use on the County Road System. As such,
it is an important early example of its generic type.

Historians: Clayton B. Fraser and Richard G. Ewig
November 1981

~~NOTE: For more general information, see Wyoming Truss Bridges Survey,
HAER No. WY-17-~~

I. HISTORY

In June 1905, Carbon County purchased the "Butler Bridge" over the North Platte River from W. H. Butler. By May 1929, the timber bridge had been heavily damaged, and Platte Valley residents petitioned the county commissioners for its reconstruction. The commissioners instead called for a steel truss in January 1930, and awarded a contract to Chris O'Neil of Platteville, Colorado, for this bridge also called the Bulter Bridge. O'Neil's bid of \$11,920 was the lowest of the two received.¹

II. DESCRIPTION

The Butler Bridge is a single span, steel pin connected three panel Camelback Through truss, with a span of 170 feet.

The abutments are timber and concrete full retaining. The roadway is steel with timber stringers and deck; the width is 15 feet, 8 inches. The chords are two channels with top plate and lacing; bottom chords are pairs of eyebars; verticals are two channels with lacing or four angles with batten plates; diagonals are pairs of eyebars (single eyobar counters). The structure has laced struts with round eyobar sway bracing.²

¹ Carbon County Commissioners' Minutes, June 7, 1905, June 3, 1913, May 7, 1929, and February 11, 1930.

² Historical Bridge Survey and Inventory Form. Wyoming State Highway Department.